

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE IV, OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE (CODIFYING PALM BEACH COUNTY ORDINANCE NUMBER 98-29), KNOWN AS THE "PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE CODE"; PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION TO THE FIRE CODE RELATING TO THE HEIGHT OF UNIT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS/LETTERS IN MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners enacted the Palm Beach County Fire Code (Palm Beach County Ordinance 98-29), which is codified at Chapter 12, Article IV, of the Palm Beach County Code (hereinafter referred to as the "Fire Code"); and

WHEREAS, Section 1-7.2 of the Fire Code establishes the Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments; and

WHEREAS, Section 1-7.3 of the Fire Code provides that such Board shall review the Fire Code and make recommendations, in the form of specific amendments, to the Board of County Commissioners for corrections, additions, substitutions or deletions to said Code for the purposes of clarification, applicability, public safety, and changes in technology, so as to maintain the Fire Code as an effective and responsive document; and

WHEREAS, on October 15, 1999, the Board of Appeals and Adjustments convened to hear an appeal relating to Section 3-7.1.1(B) of the Fire Code which requires that unit identification numbers/letters in multi-family residential buildings be a minimum of six (6) inches in height; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Appeals and Adjustments recommended that Section 3-7.1.1(B) of the Fire Code be amended to provide an exception to allow unit identification numbers/letters in multi-family residential buildings to be less than six (6) inches in height where, in the judgment of the Authority Having Jurisdiction,

1 such unit identification is clearly visible; and

2 **WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners desires to amend
3 Section 3-7.1.1(B) of the Fire Code to provide an exception to
4 allow unit identification numbers/letters in multi-family
5 residential buildings to be less than six (6) inches in height
6 where in the judgment of the Authority Having Jurisdiction such
7 unit identification is clearly visible, provided however that such
8 unit identification shall be at least a minimum of four (4) inches
9 in height.

10 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY**
11 **COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that:

12 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 12, Article IV, Section 12-57, of the
13 Palm Beach County Code, is hereby amended so that Section 3-7.1.1
14 of the Fire Code reads as follows:

15 3-7.1.1 Unit Identification.

- 16 A. In multi-unit commercial buildings, all unit
17 identification numbers/letters shall be a
18 minimum of six (6) inches in height.
- 19 B. In multi-family residential buildings, all
20 unit identification numbers/letters shall be a
21 minimum of six (6) inches in height.

22 Exception: For new and existing units where
23 in the judgment of the AHJ the unit
24 identification is clearly visible, the unit
25 identification may be less than six (6) inches
26 in height but must be at least a minimum of
27 four (4) inches in height.

- 28 C. In multi-unit buildings, two stories and up,
29 directional unit identification signs shall be
30 posted outside of each elevator/stairwell.
31 This will apply only when there is an option
32 for direction of travel.

33 **SECTION 2.** **Repeal of Laws in Conflict:**

34 All local laws and ordinances in conflict with any provisions
35 of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such
36 conflict.

37 **SECTION 3.** **Severability:**

38 If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word

1 of this ordinance is for any reason held by a Court to be
2 unconstitutional, inoperative or void, such holding shall not
3 affect the remainder of this ordinance.

4 **SECTION 4. Inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances:**

5 The provisions of this ordinance shall become and be made a
6 part of the Code of Laws and Ordinances of Palm Beach County,
7 Florida. The sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or
8 relettered to accomplish such, and the word "ordinance" may be
9 changed to "section", "article", or any other appropriate word.

10 **SECTION 5. Effective Date:**

11 The provisions of this ordinance shall become effective upon
12 filing with the Department of State.

13 **APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of
14 Palm Beach County, Florida, on the 11 day of January,
15 2000.

16 ATTEST:

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

17 Dorothy H. Wilken, Clerk
18

19 By: Linda C. Hickman By: Maude Ford Lee
20 Deputy Clerk Maude Ford Lee, Chair
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22 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
23 LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

24 Sharon Brown
25 County Attorney

26 Filed with the Department of State on the 21st day of
27 January, 2000.
28

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3 STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF PALM BEACH
I, DOROTHY H. WILKEN, ex-officio Clerk of the
Board of County Commissioners certify this to be a
true and correct copy of the original filed in my office
on January 11, 2000
DATED at West Palm Beach, FL on 2/2/00
DOROTHY H. WILKEN, Clerk
By: Sharon Brown D.C.